

Parker, Mark Raynor and Russell Mills, for the success and growth these young men accomplished this season.

Additionally deserving credit is Principal Marilyn Foley, Athletic Director Rusty Lee, Nikki Kennedy (Trainer), and Jeremy Godwin (Statistician).

They may have waited 27 years, but winning with a perfect record was worth the wait. Again, on behalf of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate the Page High School football program, along with the faculty, staff, students and supportive community for their championship season.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB OF COLUMBUS

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rotary Club of Columbus for its centennial year of providing exceptional, "Service Above Self," and for truly living up to its motto throughout these past 100 years.

The Rotary Club of Columbus was chartered on March 5, 1912, as the 38th club in Rotary International. Ever since that time, Columbus Rotary has contributed a great amount to the Columbus area. In 1919, the Rotary helped to organize the Ohio Society for Crippled Children, now known as Easter Seals. The Rotary established Camp Enterprise in 1967 to teach the Free Enterprise system to teenagers, and the program went on to become a model for Clubs across the country. In 2003, the Rotary was especially instrumental in establishing the Rafiki Orphanage in Nairobi, Kenya. Columbus Rotary projects continue today and include important programs and initiatives like Adopt-A-School, Homeless Family Foundation, and annual scholarships to local students.

Without the hard work and selfless contributions of Columbus Rotary and its members our great city would not have the vibrancy and sense of community that it does today. I offer my congratulations to Columbus Rotary on its 100 years, and I look forward to many more years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 100 YEAR ANNI- VERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the one hundred year anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America. Founded in 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low, this organization has cultivated courage, confidence, and character in young women and girls across the Nation. It is the largest organization for girls in the world and includes 3.2 million scouts today. Through volunteering, community service, adventures, and, of course, cookie sales, these young women have become the emerging leaders of our world today.

Girl Scouts participate in a wide variety of services and projects, from science and tech-

nology based activities to programs focused on financial literacy and understanding. Campaigns launched by the Girl Scouts in the past have included action against bullying and awareness of eating disorders. The highest achieving scouts even get the opportunity to apply for a Capitol Hill internship.

The organization is undeniably an American institution committed to developing women leaders, and thus the hundred year mark comes with much celebration. In honor of this century of service, 2012 has been designated "The Year of the Girl," and the projects we will see are ambitious, eclectic, and simply inspiring. As a Nation, let us recognize the astounding efforts of the organization and continue to support the Girl Scouts of America.

IN MEMORY OF ALEX BLEVINS

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Alex Blevins, a devoted father and husband, and the Executive Director of the Kentucky Court Appointed Special Advocate or CASA organization.

Alex leaves behind his wife Alice and their two beautiful children, Harper and Charlie. Their father was a man who spent years working as a determined advocate for children in need, particularly those who were abused and neglected. On behalf of my wife Pat and myself, I want to extend our deepest sympathies to the Blevins family.

Alex dedicated much of his professional career to Kentucky CASA's mission of providing leadership and support for local CASA organizations that recruit and train volunteers to serve abused and neglected children as court appointed special advocates. Through statewide advocacy of the CASA mission and the provision of training, support and resources, Kentucky CASA partners with National CASA, local programs and others to serve as a powerful voice in a child's life.

Alex had an unbridled compassion for abused and neglected children. He worked diligently on their behalf as part of Kentucky CASA for nearly eight years. He assisted local chapters and worked to increase the number of counties in the Commonwealth with CASA volunteers to ensure more children benefit from this important service.

Alex graduated from Centre College in 2003. He served on the Kentucky Court of Justice's Improvement Project Advisory Board and National CASA's Inclusion and Diversity Committee, as well as Public Policy Co-Chairman for Kentucky's Blue Ribbon Panel on Adoption and Safety.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and remembering my friend, Alex Blevins. Kentucky is a better place because of Alex and his outstanding contributions to the Commonwealth. His leadership and compassionate advocacy on behalf of children will be sorely missed.

HONORING MR. OFIELD DUKES

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Chairman EMANUEL CLEAVER II and my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, CBC, to honor the extraordinary life of Mr. Ofield Dukes. A trailblazing public relations titan known far beyond the communications world, Ofield Dukes will be remembered as a civil rights champion, an inspiring educator, a skilled mentor, and a trusted advisor to the world's most prominent leaders. With his passing on December 7, 2011, we look to Mr. Ofield Dukes' political legacy and the outstanding quality of his life's work.

Born in Rutledge, Alabama, Mr. Dukes graduated with a degree in journalism from Wayne State University after having been a journalist while serving in the United States Army during the Korean War. He soon made a name for himself as an award-winning writer for the Michigan Chronicle and, in 1964, Mr. Dukes was hired as Deputy Director of Information for President Lyndon Johnson's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity. Within two years, he had become communications adviser to Vice President Hubert Humphrey. In 1969, Dukes founded Ofield Dukes and Associates (ODA), one of the most enduring and successful public relations firms in the country, specializing in minority, African-American, African, and political affairs. ODA elevated the profiles of artists, business people, students, Civil Rights heroes, Members of Congress and Presidents, alike.

During an era still marred by the scourge of racism and segregation, Mr. Dukes utilized brilliant public relations strategies to galvanize support for the Civil Rights movement and to get out the vote in the African-American community after the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Moreover, without his tireless work, the CBC would not be "the conscience of the Congress" it is today. He was the organizer of the first CBC dinner, and a CBC Foundation Board member for 14 years. His vast political experience and guidance helped expand the CBC from its original 13 Members of Congress in 1971 to 43 Members today.

Mr. Dukes also orchestrated the 1981 national march on Washington, D.C. to make the birth date of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. a national holiday.

Furthermore, Mr. Dukes brought the wealth of his experience to the classroom, spending over twenty years as a professor at Howard University and nearly a decade at American University. It was there that he instilled young minds with the powerful public relations tools necessary to create new generations of social justice. Renowned for his professionalism, teaching prowess and strong sense of loyalty, Ofield Dukes encouraged hundreds of African-American students to enter the field of public relations. He was a gatekeeper for African-American reporters needing access to the White House for every Democratic administration since the 1960s, a founding member of the Black Public Relations Society of Washington, D.C., and the first African American to receive the Public Relations Society of America's Gold Anvil, the industry's highest honor.